

Application No. 09/744,637
Filed: March 21, 2001
TC Art Unit: 1774
Confirmation No.: 3042

REMARKS

In response to an Office Action mailed on September 29, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-listed Amendments be entered and the Application be reconsidered. With entry of the above-listed Amendments, claims 5 and 8 are amended and claims 1-4, 7 and 9-21 are canceled. Thus, three claims are presented for examination. Of these, claims 5 and 8 are independent, and the remaining claim is dependent.

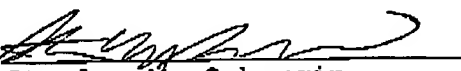
The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowable subject matter identified by the Examiner in claims 5, 6 and 8. The Examiner objected to these claims, because each claim depends upon a rejected base claim. To overcome the Examiner's objections and to put these claims in a condition for allowance, claims 5 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form and now include all the limitations of their former base claim. Claim 6 remains dependent from claim 5.

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It is respectfully submitted that the present Application is now in a condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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